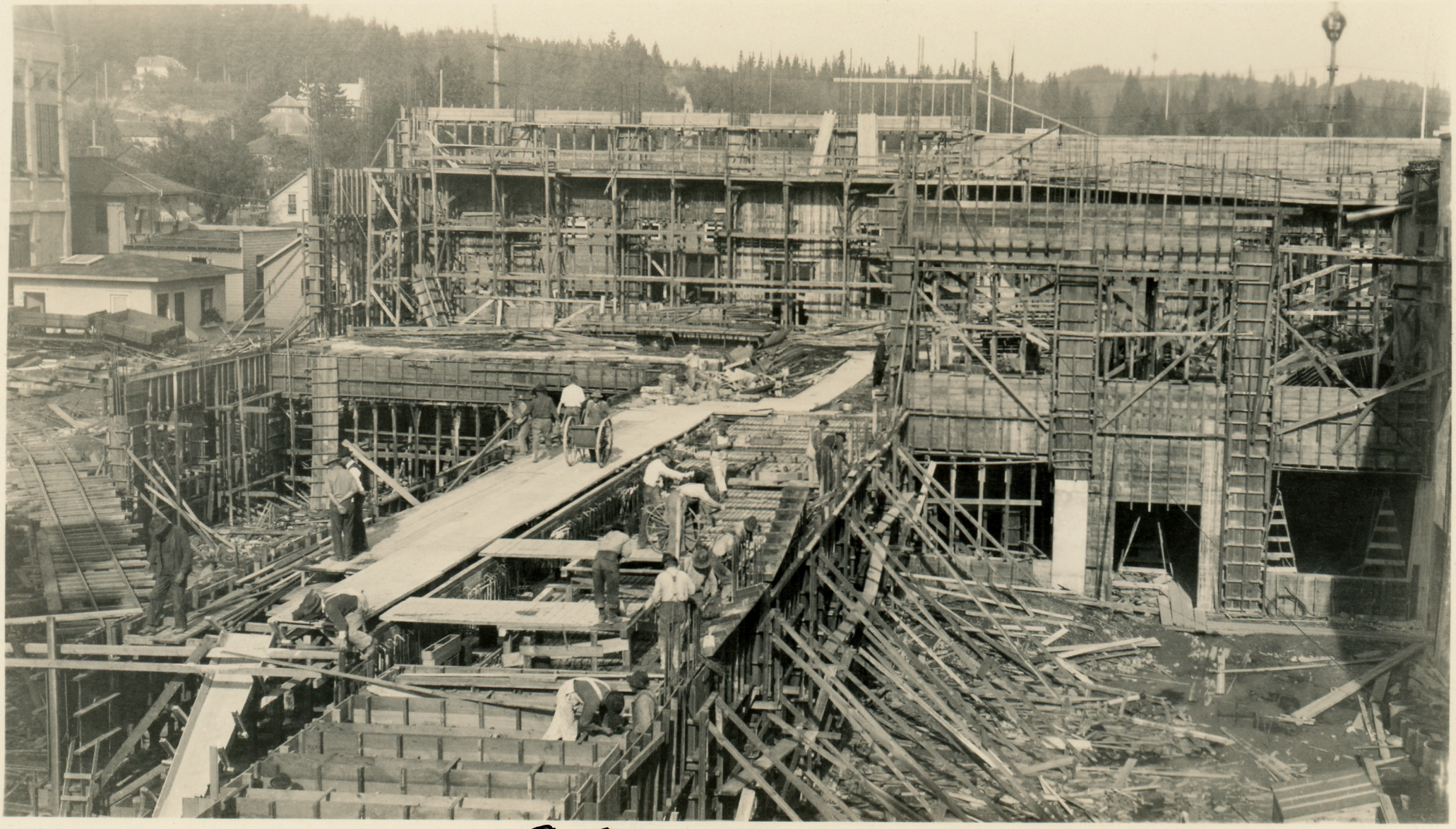
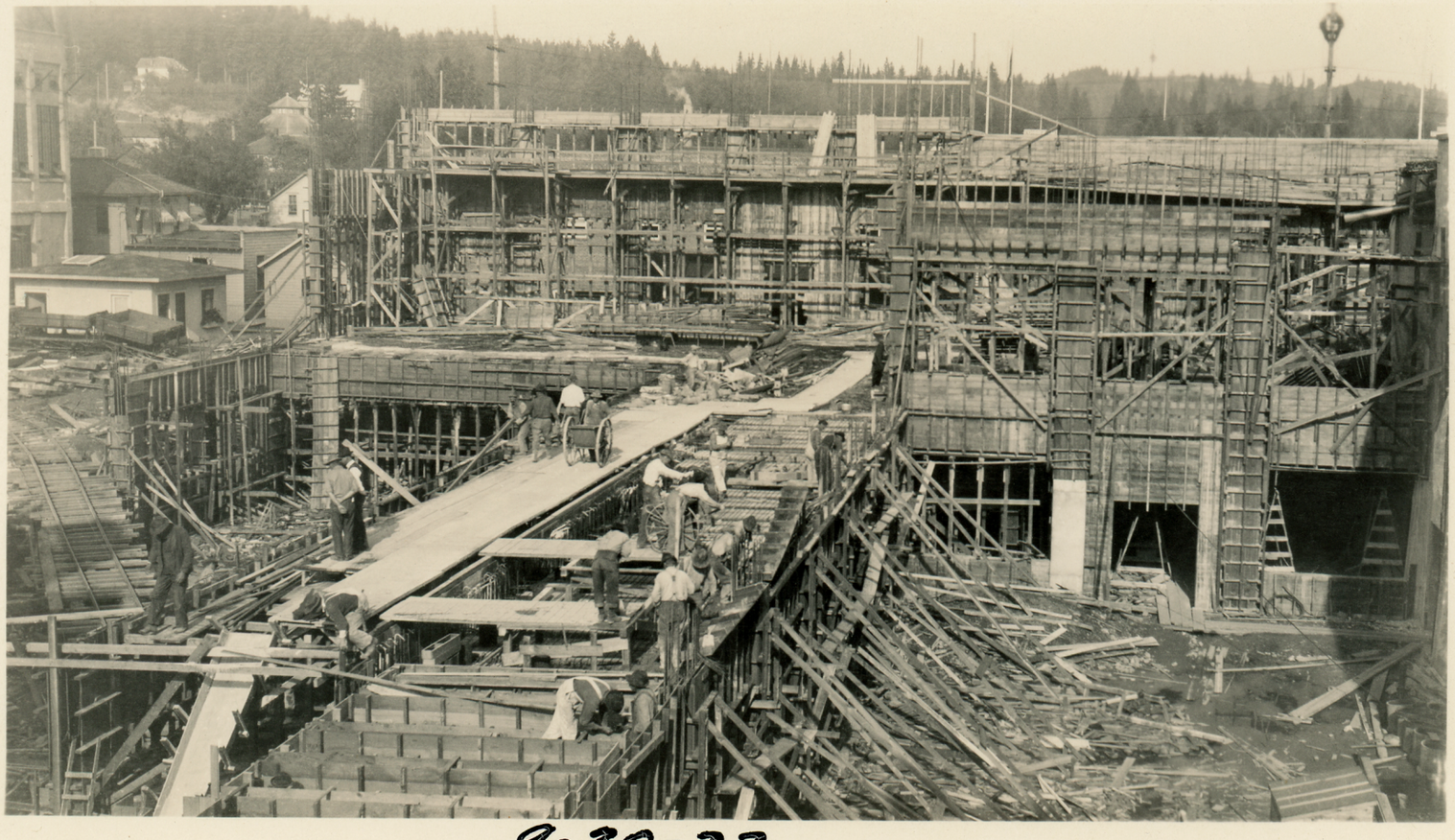


9-30-22



9-30-22

Photo 5
September 30, 1922

By the end of September 1922, the scale of construction has grown even more apparent. The view appears to be looking east, with downtown Camas visible beyond the large wall of the mill structure. The construction site fills the foreground, while the older town remains close behind it — not separate from the mill, but drawn directly into its expanding edge.

In the upper-left corner, the six-sided church is visible, a building that no longer stands. It predated this construction by about ten years and was once part of the older downtown landscape. According to local lore, the church had no corners so there was no place for the devil to hide — one of those details that stays with a building long after the building itself is gone.

The photograph holds several layers of change at once. The mill is unfinished, but already massive. Downtown Camas is still visible, but partly overshadowed by the industrial structure rising in front of it. The hillside beyond gives the scene its larger setting, showing how tightly the town, the mill, and the surrounding landscape were bound together.

More than a construction record, this image shows Camas in transition: the older downtown still present, the mill still rising, and the landscape around it being reshaped into the form later generations would remember.